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WHEELING, JANUARY 30, 1900.

Meeting of the State League of Republican Clubs.

To the Republicans of West Virginia.

The time has come for aggressive action on the part of all adherents of our great party, which is now, ever, the Party of Vital and positive principles. This year, as heretofore, Republicanism means patriotism. It therefore behooves the friends of good government everywhere to use all honorable means to perpetuate Republican principles by bringing about the election by overwhelming majorities of the Republican national, state and local nominees in the pending campaign. Such effort should not cease until victory is won.

In view of the great influence for good wielded by club organizations in distributing political literature and arousing enthusiasm upon the live questions of the day, a meeting of the West Virginia State League of Republican Clubs is hereby called for

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1900.

to be held in the city of Parkersburg, W. Va., for the purposes of reorganization, consideration of plans of work for this year's campaign, election of delegates to the National League meeting, and for such other business as may properly come before it. Each club is entitled to five delegates, and it should also elect five alternates. Republicans in every county are urged to organize clubs at once, and send the name of each club, with lists of officers and delegates, without delay, to the secretary at Charleston.

Speakers of national reputation will be present to address the meeting.

By order of the Executive Committee,
WM. BURDETTE MATTHEWS,
First Vice President.
D. E. HUGHES, Secretary.

Just as We Predicted.

As the Intelligencer predicted, and always believed from the start of Col. "Purple Pencil" McGraw's ridiculous contentions with regard to Senator Scott's title to his seat in the senate, the senate committee on privileges and elections has refused to take further testimony in the case, because of its opposition to going behind the action of the state legislature in the matter of seatings its members. The committee in a few days will report to the senate in favor of the sitting senator.

McGraw's presumption has been something wonderful. His attorneys have also made some startling statements regarding the situation in this state, one going so far as to claim that it was worse than during the days of reconstruction. It is a wonder that the whole ridiculous case has not been laughed out of the committee long ago, and the man who poses as the "preserver of a republican form of government to West Virginia," spanked like any other incorrigible boy, and sent home.

The Intelligencer congratulates Senator Scott on his relief from further annoyance from this flea politician.

Situation in South Africa.

Judging from a great distance, many times removed from the scene of action, and relying entirely on the meagre reports from British and Boer sources, it would appear that the troops of Great Britain are in a very tight hole. This view is somewhat emphasized by the deep concern that is manifested in England, for the attempts to put a bold face on the disaster at Spion Kop, and minimize the seriousness of the situation in South Africa are entirely lacking in London, and it is frankly acknowledged that the most ambitious effort on the part of English troops during the war has not only dismally failed, but has met with unqualified disaster.

The time for the holding out of Lady-smith has elapsed, and the relief of that point has been about practically abandoned. Viewing affairs from their most charitable aspect with respect to the operations of the British forces there has been nothing but humiliation for the English arms. The few temporary successes they have gained have been as costly as defeats, and to-day they are not as near the Transvaal frontier, figuratively speaking, as when hostilities commenced.

Amounts to Nothing.

Legislation cannot regulate wages, in spite of the fact that some legislators think it can. A bill has just passed the Ohio house of representatives which provides that women employed to do work of any kind shall, in the absence of a contract agreement, be paid the same wages as men receive for similar work. While the originator of the bill is, no doubt, congratulating himself that he has perfected a wonderful thing, it will only take a little thinking to convince himself that he has accomplished virtually nothing.

In the first place its constitutionality is questionable, and further its very

weakness is confessed in the provision that contracts could not be violated by the enforcement of the law. If a woman does the same work as a man, and does it as well, she should receive the same pay, but if such a measure were enforced nobody would employ a woman except on a verbal or written contract, which obviously defeats the intention of the framers of the law. In fact the law, if enforced, would work more of a hardship to women than a benefit.

Church Bells Growing Obsolete.

The sentiment that clusters around the "village church bell" when people worshiped in a primitive way is robbed of all its solemnity and tender associations when one lives in the midst of a dozen or a half dozen deep throated, iron tongued monsters in the city that fracture the atmosphere and destroy the peace and quiet of the Sabbath morning. Some church bells are rung on the least provocation without any reference to the feelings and the nerves of the people living in the vicinity. That the people have some rights these noisy distractions are bound to respect has been effectually proven in the courts. The bells of Shandon may "have sounded very grand on the pleasant waters of the river Lee" to the poetic fancy of Poe, but they would lose their music and charm when bunched in the steeples of a dozen contiguous churches and all clanging at the same time.

For various reasons, and eminently good ones, the church bell is becoming obsolete. The temper and nerves of residents in close proximity to the loud sounding Sabbath disturbers of Wheeling are not improved by their tinny-bulations, nor are they in the proper frame of mind to worship when called to service with such an ear splitting summons. In other cities the reform in the ringing of church bells has been going on with marvelous results. A writer in the Pittsburgh Dispatch treating this subject, with reference to that city, says:

It seems but yesterday that I recall the bright, balmy Sabbath mornings when I was awakened by the vibrations of a hundred bells calling worshippers to religious services. It would have been hard to find a place in Pittsburgh in those days where the sound of church bells did not penetrate. But now there are probably twice as many churches, many standing close together, as though seeking company, but on Sabbath mornings almost the only bell sounds heard in the greater portion of the city come from the street car gongs.

Rev. Dr. William J. Reid, pastor of one of the largest churches in Pittsburgh, and Rev. Dr. Allison, editor of the Presbyterian Banner, agree that church bells are a nuisance and are going out of use in all modern churches. The former declares they are a menace to the well-being of the sick—and he might have added that they are in no wise a comfort to the sinner—while the latter gentleman claims that the "only excuse for ringing church bells was based on sentimental grounds."

Continuing, Dr. Allison said:

I remember the incident of the late Dr. John Hall, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, New York, who, one Sunday morning, while walking to the church, was startled by the terrific vibrations of the great bell in the tower, which had just begun to ring. The very windows in the neighboring buildings rattled. Close by was St. Luke's hospital, where were hundreds of sick and suffering. Dr. Hall's sympathetic nature was touched, and he gave the order then and there that caused that great bell to remain silent ever since.

With modern clocks and watches, which are cheap and reliable, the bell is not needed to announce the appointed hour for worship as it was in times gone by. From a health point of view one of the strongest arguments against the clanging church bell is maintained. The action of boards of health in various cities has effected the stoppage of the ringing of bells which harassed the sick. The supreme court of Pennsylvania has taken a similar stand in cases that have arisen in Philadelphia; while the general protest of the ever-growing community of night workers, who have to get their rest in the day time, has added to the weight of sentiment against the church bell.

Bryan's Predicament.

All of Mr. Bryan's sympathies lie primarily with the Populist party, and the Chicago platform on which he ran in 1896 symbolized the creed of that political faction. Many Democrats who opposed and voted against Bryan were as hostile to his Populist leanings as they were to his fatal fallacy of 16 to 1. And they will hold the same attitude again under like conditions.

The scheme of the Populists to nominate Bryan first and compel the Democratic party to endorse that nomination in convention will in all likelihood be carried out, and we do not see how Bryan can refuse the one and accept the other. Or, in case he is nominated by the Populists how he can accept the independent nomination of the Democrats, and renounce the support of the Populists. Even if the Democrats should conclude to swallow the Populist dose it will be just as bad for the peripatetic candidate. He will be in a quandary in any event, and he will be defeated if he had a hundred nominations from as many parties, factions and schisms.

Baltimore's reform mayor is jumping on the violators of the Sunday laws with both feet. He has a nice batch of names to present to the grand jury, including editors, reporters, cigar dealers, grocers, bootblacks, saloon-keepers and others.

Senator Mason objects to being kicked out of an organization of which he has no knowledge of ever having been affiliated with. Perhaps the records of the Tippecanoe club, of Chicago, might refresh his memory.

Well, well! Now the baby carriage trust comes along and advances prices. Happily this will not affect babies.

Bryan's trip into the "enemy's country" was as disastrous as his interference in the Kentucky fight.

The Populists are determined not to play second fiddle to the Chicago platform Democrats.

Dr. Leyds, the Transvaal agent in Europe, says the Boers are well satisfied with the situation, and that they

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Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

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will not be the first to sue for peace. That is the way it strikes us at the present time.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Be sure you are right, then let the girl go ahead.

Convention is the soul's barbed-wire fence to keep the cattle off.

If all the microbes were elephants some women wouldn't make any more fuss about them.

When a woman gets mad at her husband she always tries to break his heart by talking to kissing him the way women do.

Every time a man gets married there is some woman who makes up her mind that she would have refused him, anyhow, if he had been fool enough to ask her.—New York Press.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

The unexpected seldom happens more than once.

The bite of a toothless dog might be termed a soft snap.

Some people are radical in theory but conservative in action.

The hungry actor at the table is willing to take everybody's part.

Men tell more lies about their weight than women do about their age.

The bill board makes the actor glad, but the board bill makes him tired.

When two souls have but a single thought the thought seldom interests outsiders.

The silent watches of the night should be replaced by an alarm clock for late risers.

Some people remain away from church when it rains because their religion isn't waterproof.

The tariff makes some things come high, but old bachelors and spinsters are on the free list.

It is a curious fact that the best way to make both ends meet is to pursue a straight and honorable career.—Chicago News.

"Almost Persuaded."

Washington Post: "I must confess that I have been very near conversion to the doctrine of free and unlimited coinage of silver," observed Representative Dayton, of West Virginia, yesterday, several years a Republican member of the house.

"Some unusual circumstance must have moved you."

"Well, we have a little national bank up at Philippi," exclaimed Mr. Dayton, as he halted for a moment in the lobby, "and I am one of the directors. The other night robbers broke in, blew up our safe, and took away almost everything they could find. They carried away our gold and they carried away our notes and greenbacks, some \$6,000 in all, but they left quite a quantity of silver money. They didn't want that at all, and it struck me that if robbers don't care for silver money it was just the right kind of money for poor little banks like ours to do business with."

"THE MAN WITH THE HOE."

Prize Poem, Taking an Optimistic View of That Individual, Written by John Vance Cheney.

John Vance Cheney, of Chicago, is announced by the New York Sun as the winner of the first prize of \$400, offered through that paper for the best poetic answer to Edwin Markham's "The Man With the Hoe." Over 100 poems were submitted to the judges, T. B. Aldrich and E. C. Steadman. Mr. Cheney's poem is entitled the same as Markham's, has for its motto the sentence from Montaigne, "Let us a little permit Nature to take her own way; she better understands her own affairs than we," and is as follows:

Nature reads not our labels, "great" and "small;" Accepts she one and all

Who, striving, win and hold the vacant place, All are of royal race.

Him, there, rough-cast, with rigid arm and limb, The Mother moulded him,

Of his rude realm ruler and demigod, Lord of the rock and cleft.

With Nature is no "better" and no "worse," On this barred head no curse.

Humbled it is and bowed; so is he crowned Whose kingdom is the ground.

Diverse the burdens on the one stern road Where learn each back its load;

Varied the toll, but neither high nor low, With pen or sword or hoe.

He that has put out strength, lo, he is strong; Of him with spade or song

Nature but questions—"This one, shall he stay?" She answers "Yea" or "Nay."

"Well, ill, he digs, he sows; and he hides on, Or shudders, and is gone.

Strength shall he have, the toiler, strength and grace, So fitted to his place

As he leaned, there, an oak where sea winds blow, No brother with the hoe.

No blot, no monster, no unsightly thing, The soil's long-lined king;

His changeless realm, he knows it and commands; Erect enough he stands,

Tall as his toll. Nor does he bow unblent; Labor he has, and rest.

Need was, need is, and need will ever be For him and such as he;

Cast for the gap, with gnarled arm and rise, The Mother moulded him,

Long wrought, and moulded him with mother's care, Before she set him there.

And, aye, she gives him, mindful of her Peace of the plant, the stone;

Yea, since above his work he may not She makes the field his skies;

See! she that bore him, and metes out this He serves her. Vex him not

To scorn the rock whence he was hewn, And what was dugred from it;

Let he no more in native virtue stand, The earth-sword in his hand,

But follow sorry phantoms to and fro, And let a kingdom go.

BUY it and try it if you want a delicious wine with a beautiful bouquet—Cook's Imperial Extra Dry Champagne.

COGNAC. The King You Have Always Bought.

ELECTRIC ROAD

To Connect Sistersville With Middlebourne Soon to be Built—Social and Miscellaneous Items of Interest From the Oil Metropolis.

SPECIAL DISPATCH to the Intelligencer.

SISTERSVILLE, W. Va., Jan. 29.—During the past couple of months there has been considerable talk about an electric railway being built from this city to the county seat, Middlebourne. It looks very much now as though the project would be a go. A number of prominent gentlemen in the state have taken an interest in the matter and will push it to completion as soon as possible. A well known gentleman who is largely interested in having the road built was in the city Saturday evening, and in a conversation with your correspondent stated that all the incidental arrangements for the building of the road had been completed. The right of way for the road has all been secured with the exception of two places, and at the places mentioned it will be necessary to condemn the property. As soon as the condemnation proceedings have been attended to the work of grading the road will be commenced, and it is expected that the road will be completed and equipped early the coming summer. The road will be the most important improvement this county has experienced since the completion of the Ohio River railroad some years ago. It is something that has long been needed, and the people will greatly appreciate it.

John Donahue, a prominent attaché of the Carter Oil Company, with headquarters at Marietta, was in the city Saturday and Sunday, calling on friends and attending to business matters. He returned to Marietta this afternoon.

Miss Lena Hickok, of Virginia street, went to St. Mary's Sunday afternoon, where she will be the guest of her friend, Miss Lella Porter, of that place, for a few days.

Miss M. R. Wells, of Main street, left Saturday for Washington, Pa., where she will be the guest of Dr. J. L. Thistle and family for a week or ten days.

Joseph L. Sweeney, cashier of the First National Bank, of this city, who has been confined to his home for a week or ten days on account of the grip, is able to be about and will return to work in a few days.

Henry Koontz, of New Martinsville, agent for the Ohio River railroad, arrived in the city Saturday evening with his family and was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Frame, of Railroad avenue, over Sunday.

John C. Eckert, of the Carter Oil Company, who has been on a business trip to Titusville and Pittsburgh, Pa., for a week or ten days, returned to the city Saturday evening.

R. J. Davidson, cashier of the Farmers and Producers Bank, of this city, who has been the guest of relatives and friends at his former home near Pittsburgh, Pa., for a couple of days, has returned to the city.

Miss Kittie Haudenschield, who has been employed at McMeekin, for some time, arrived in the city Saturday evening and will be the guest of her parents, on Catherine street, for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Gold, of the south side, left the last of the week for Natrona, Pa., having been called there by a telegram announcing the death of a brother of Mrs. Gold. The funeral took place this afternoon, and they will return to-morrow.

Mrs. Jane Sweeney, of Oil City, Pa., mother of Joseph, Frank and Alfred Sweeney, of this city, arrived in the city Saturday, and will be the guest of her sons for a couple of weeks.

Clifford Ramey, a popular attaché of the National Supply Company, at St. Mary's, was in the city yesterday, the guest of his mother and sister, at their home on Main street.

Albert Moore, of St. John's, Mich., who was called to his home in the interior of the county a few days ago by the death of his father, David Moore, was in the city Saturday on his way home. While here he visited a number of old friends.

Ed. A. Nesbitt, a prominent broker, formerly of this city, now located at Marietta, Ohio, was in the city over Sunday, the guest of relatives and friends.

Professor Lucien Meyers, musical instructor, has in preparation a recital to be given by his scholars in the Auditorium in a couple of weeks, for the benefit of the piano fund of the high school. This is the second of the series to be given during the winter.

Miss Anna Kane, who has been ill for a couple of weeks, left yesterday for her home at Belpre, Ohio, where she will visit her parents for a couple of days before returning.

G. W. Kotzebue, of New Martinsville, who also has a store here, arrived in the city yesterday morning, and will remain here for a week or ten days looking after his interests.

Miss Mayme Taylor, of Parkersburg, a charming and accomplished young lady, who has been the guest of her friend, Miss Mena Zinn, of North Wells street, for a couple of weeks, left Saturday evening for home.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, LUCAS COUNTY, ss.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1899.

A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

BEECHAM'S PILLS will dispel the "blues."

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Hot on the Trail of Coffee!

What will you take to try a single pound of Chase & Sanborn's High-Grade Coffee?

All beginnings are hard, as the thief said when he began by stealing an anvil. But listen to the facts!

The beginning of everything is a curious machine used only by them. It separates out the full-grown berries. Other firms would call this extravagant, but you won't when you come to drink the coffee.

These berries are then only roasted to order. The same day they are hermetically sealed in canisters so that not a breath of aroma is lost. (By the great Abu Bakr of blessed memory, what a flavor this gives to your coffee pot in the kitchen!)

Your grocer breaks the hermetic seals and puts the coffee into Chase & Sanborn's imported parchment-lined bags, each bearing the Seal trademark with their signed warranty of Highest Quality. This he gives to you.

And you never buy any other coffee afterward!

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Broken Lots of Men's, Ladies' and Children's Underwear.

Ladies' and Gents' Harderford Underwear at one-half price.

Children's Scarlet Underwear one-half price.

Children's Camel's Hair Underwear one-half price.

Men's Jersey Fleece Shirts and Drawers 35c.

Little lots of all kinds cheap.

Ladies' Fast Black Seamless Hose, 10c.

Ladies' Knit Underskirts at 35c. Reduced price on Silver Novelties.

Colored Silk Plushes for Fancy Work and Lambrequins, 25c a yard.

25c Embroidered Handkerchiefs, window soiled, at 12 1/2c.

Children's Sleeping Garments 19c.

Ladies' Cloth Shirt Waists at reduced prices.

The special low prices on Jackets, Capes and Furs are the lowest they will be this season.

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AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA HOUSE

One Night Only, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

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In Sol Smith Russell's Greatest Success,

A BACHELOR'S ROMANCE.

Commencing at 8:10 sharp.

Prices—50c, 75c and \$1.00. Reserved seats sale commences at Opera House box office Wednesday morning, January 31.

OPERA HOUSE

MATINEE AND NIGHT, SATURDAY, FEB. 3.

The Reigning Success of Two Homophones, Broadhurst's Hilarious Sufficiency.

WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES.

By George H. Broadhurst.

Author of "Why Smith Left Home," "The Wrong Mr. Wright," etc.

THE GREAT BIG CAST.

Matinee prices, 25c and 50c. Night prices, 50c, 75c and \$1.00. Reserved seats sale opens at Opera House box office Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 1, 2, 3. Matinee Saturday. A Starling Drama of New York Life.

BOWERY AFTER DARK.

Sensational Scenes from Life in Gotham. Strong Cast, including Victory Bateman.

Night prices—15c, 25c and 50c. Matinee prices—15c, 25c and 50c.

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